

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 26 2004

OFFICIAL
OFFICIAL

CARDINAL LAW GROUP

1603 Orrington Avenue/Suite 2000
Evanston, Illinois 60201
Telephone 847 - 905 - 7111
Facsimile 847 - 905 - 7113

**CONFIDENTIAL ATTORNEY-CLIENT
PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATION**

Date: APRIL 26, 2004

To: EXAMINER XUAN LAN T. NGUYEN
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Fax #: (703) 872-9327

From: FRANK C. NICHOLAS
Fax #: (847) 424-2521

Client/Matter No.: DP-306204 (7500/116)

of Pages: 14
(including cover sheet)

IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS RECEIVING THIS MESSAGE, PLEASE CALL 847/905-7111 Ext. 2280, AND ASK FOR JENNIFER CRUZ.

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED. IT MAY CONTAIN PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT, OR TRADE SECRET INFORMATION WHICH IS EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAWS. IF YOU ARE NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, OR AN EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERING THE MESSAGE TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS MESSAGE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS MESSAGE IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE (AND ALL COPIES) TO US BY MAIL AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS. WE WILL REIMBURSE YOU FOR POSTAGE.

**TRANSMITTAL
FROM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Attorney Docket No	DP-306204 (7500/116)
Application Number	09/994,306
Filing Date	NOVEMBER 26, 2001
First Named Inventor	TROY A. MILLER
Group Art Unit	3683
Examiner	NGUYEN, XUAN LAN T

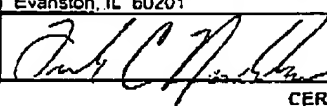
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Office Action Dated March 17, 2004 <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (duplic) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449, art <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. <u>50-1713</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. <u>50-1713</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		

CALCULATION OF FEE

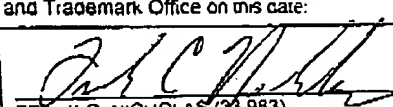
					Small Entity		Or	Large Entity	
	Claims After Amendment		Highest No Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee		Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus		0	x \$9=	0		x \$18=	
Indep		Minus	1	1	x \$43=	0		1 x \$86=	\$86
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claims						+ \$145=	--	+ \$290=	
					total add'l fee	\$ 0		total add'l fee	\$86

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Or Individual name	FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,983 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201		
Signature		Date	APRIL 26, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited/transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9327 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this date: APRIL 26, 2004

Signature		Date:	APRIL 26, 2004
FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33,983)			

**TRANSMITTAL
FROM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Attorney Docket No.	DP-306204 (7500/116)
Application Number	09/994,306
Filing Date	NOVEMBER 26, 2001
First Named Inventor	TROY A. MILLER
Group Art Unit	3683
Examiner	NGUYEN, XUAN LAN T

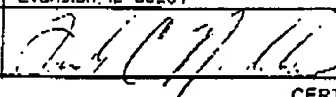
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Office Action Dated March 17, 2004 <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request (dupl.) <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement PTO-1449, art. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Post Card Receipt <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below) <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. <u>50-1713</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. <u>50-1713</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		

CALCULATION OF FEE

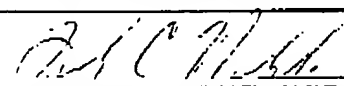
				Small Entity		or	Large Entity	
	Claims After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate		Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus		0	x \$9=		x \$18=	
Indep.		Minus	1	1	x \$43=		1 x \$86=	\$86
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+ \$143=		+ \$290=	
					total add'l fee	\$ 0	total add'l fee	\$86

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Or Individual name	FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No. 33,983 CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue, Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201		
Signature		Date	APRIL 26, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited/transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9327 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this date: APRIL 26, 2004

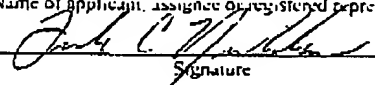
Signature		Date	APRIL 26, 2004
-----------	---	------	----------------

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

APR 26 2004

OFFICIAL

Certificate of Facsimile
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
transmitted by facsimile to (703) 872-9327 to the U.S.
Patent and Trademark Office April 26, 2004
(Date of Deposit)

FRANK C. NICHOLAS (33 V83)
Name of applicant, assignee or registered representative

Signature
April 26, 2004
Date of Signature

PATENT
Case No. **DP-306204**
(7500/116)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)	
)	
TROY A. MILLER, ET AL.)	Examiner: NGUYEN, XUAN LAN T
)	
Serial No.: 09/994,306)	
)	Group Art Unit: 3683
Filed: NOVEMBER 26, 2001)	
)	
Title: VALVE SPOOL FOR)	
SUSPENSION DAMPER)	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 17, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22202-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 17, 2004, please amend this
application as follows.